

## REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application and have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Bennett 6,216,675 in view of Brümmer 5,445,130 and further in view of Watanabe 5,251,603. These grounds for rejection are respectfully traversed at least for the reasons set forth below.

Bennett is not understood to teach or suggest that an elongated body that has at least one tapered end longitudinally spaced from end couplings of the pipe. In addition, Bennett is not understood to teach or suggest an elongated body housed in a through cavity defined by a pipe, that the elongated body is made of a polymeric material and is interference fitted in the through cavity, that the pipe is made of a metal material having a different coefficient of thermal expansion than the polymeric material, that projections radially interposed between the pipe and the elongated body define internal passages traversed by the fuel, and that the elongated body has at least one tapered end longitudinally spaced from end couplings of the pipe.

Neither of the embodiments depicted in FIGS. 2 and 5 of Bennett includes an elongated body housed inside a pipe. They relate to a pipe having a single or double lumen with fins projecting inwardly of the lumen and outwardly of the pipe. In addition, plug 160 at an end of pipe 130 cannot be considered the elongate body recited in claim 1, because plug 160 is not elongated and because there are no projections radially interposed between the pipe and plug 160 to define internal passages traversed by the fuel. Further, plug 160 has no tapered ends.

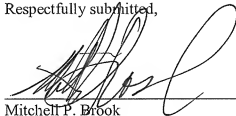
Brümmer and Watanabe fail to fill the deficiencies of Bennett. Both Brümmer and Watanabe pertain to fuel handling systems made of a single material and neither Brümmer nor Watanabe provides a reason to insert an elongated body made of a first material within a pipe made of a second material and to have fuel flow therebetween. Brümmer nor Watanabe also provide no reasons to use elongated bodies with tapered ends.

**Conclusion**

It is believed that all objections and rejections in the application have been addressed and that the present application is in condition for allowance. A favorable reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is solicited. If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this and concurrent replies to charge payment (or credit any overpayment) to Deposit Account No. 50-2298 for any additional required fees.

Dated: January 16, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mitchell P. Brook', is written over a horizontal line.

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